condition and is sufficiently deep even for big steam boats. As regards the curves referred to by the Member, the Chief Engineer says that the cost of straightening them will be out of proportion to the advantage to be gained.

164. Needs of the Minachil Taluk.

Mr. Ulahannan Ulahannan (Member, Minachil Taluk) submitted that the needs of the taluk had been brought to the notice of Government at several sessions of the Assembly and that nothing had been done so far in the matter. He first prayed for the construction of the following roads and bridges ;—

1. Construction of a bridge across the Minachil River in the Lalam-Ponkunnam road, and another near the Kadanad church in the Lalam-Todupuzha road. An estimate for the former had been sanctioned in 1091. The Member requested provision of funds therefor in the current year's budget.

2. Bharananganam-Tidanad road.

3. Vazhamattam-Pinnakunad road.

4. Road from the 3rd mile of the Melkavu road to Piravithanam south.

5. Edamattam-Tidanad road.

The Member stated that the above roads which provided means of communication to the interior tracts had been cut by the people and requested that they might be taken over by Government for maintenance.

6. Construction of Vazhamattam-Bharananganam road.

An estimate for this road had been sanctioned in 1917. Funds should be provided early.

7. Opening of a road to Ramapuram from Lalam-Thodupuzha road 2nd mile *via* Ezhacherry. The people had consented to give the required land free of cost.

8. Construction of a landing ghat in the Minachil river near the Pala market.

The Member's next prayer was in regard to the construction of a building for the higher grade vernacular school for boys at Pala and another for the girls' school at Pala near the boys' school building. He also urged the desirability of locating the District Munsiff's Court near the public offices and putting up a satrom at Minachil for the use of travellers of all castes.

Dewan's reply.—Estimates have been sanctioned for some of the works. Several Members have represented about P. W. needs. All of them cannot be sanctioned at the same time. As soon as the budget is sanctioned, it will be communicated to the representatives of the people at whose suggestion allotments will be made in the order of urgency and the works taken up.

165. Needs of the Kunnatnad Taluk.

Mr. V. R. Gopala Pillai (Member, Kunnatnad Taluk) in submitting his representation regarding means of communication, urged the need for repairing and putting in order the following roads :—

(*a*) portion of the Alwaye-Perumpavur road;

(*b*) Muvattupuzha-Kunnatnad road;

(*c*) the approach road to Vallom landing, a mile in distance; and

(*d*) the road from Angamali market and from Kaladi to Manjapara for which an estimate had already been sanctioned.

The Member next pleaded for the establishment of a District and Sessions Court at Perumpavur. The District Court was situated at Parur, the western extremity of its jurisdiction. It was most inconvenient to the people of Todupuzha which was far removed from Parur. On the other hand, Perumpavur was centrally situated.

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The Member quoted figures regarding appeals filed from the various taluks during 1093, 1094 and 1095 in support of his contention.

Dewan.—The remarks of the High Court will be called for.

The Member next urged the early construction of a building for the Munsiff's Court and the First Class Magistrate's Court at Perumpavur and observed that travellers were put to great inconvenience on account of the satrom being utilised for the Munsiff's Court. There was already a sanctioned estimate for constructing a Munsiff's Court. It would be well if the First Class Magistrate's Court was also constructed along with the Munsiff's Court. The Member prayed that the work might be taken up and pushed through as early as possible.

His next request was in regard to the raising of the standard of the lower grade English school at Perumpavur. That was the only English school in the whole taluk. It was self-supporting and the building was put up by the people. The strength in Form III was 29 and students for Form IV and other higher forms had to go to either Parur or Alwaye.

Dewan.—Why cannot you run it as an aided institution? We shall hand it over to you and give you a grant.

Member.—People may not be found for undertaking it. They will be prepared to give sites and construct buildings.

Dewan.—There are three or four other schools where they want the standard to be raised. I think that we must proceed on some definite lines in these matters. The principle is that most of the secondary schools should be gradually handed over to private management and converted into aided schools. This is one of the subjects to be discussed at the proposed Educational Conference.

Member.—By that time the school year will commence.

Dewan.—Yours is not the only case. My own idea is that there is no use in having an English school up to Form III. If an English school is opened, it must be up to Form VI. But we must hand it over to the people for management. I am asking the Director to consult the local people.

Lastly, the Member spoke about the necessity of converting the Perumpavur Dispensary into a District Hospital.

Dewan.—The number of patients treated per day, according to your own statement, comes to only 50, and that is not sufficient to justify the conversion of the institution into a hospital. If necessary, two emergency wards will be opened, one for males and the other for females.

Member.—If a hospital cannot be opened, provision may be made for admitting inpatients.

Dewan.—Arrangements will be made for opening two emergency wards.

166. The enlargement of the rights and privileges of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

Mr. K. K. Thomas B. A., B. L. (Member, Kottayam Taluk) said that much of the desire for popular administration could be satisfied by the opening of District Councils and Village Panchayats already referred to in the Dewan's opening Address and that the proposed enlargement of the Legislative Council had also set at rest the major portion of the anxiety of the people in the matter of participation in the administration.

Coming to the proposed improvement of the Assembly itself, the Member said that the franchise should be on the broadest principle, making every graduate of the University eligible. The second grade pleaders who formed a very important portion of the public of Travancore and who were able to appreciate the advantages that were conferred on the people should also be declared eligible. Coming to the tax qualification, the Member would fix it at Rs. 5. Distinct provision should be made in the rules in respect of other classes of land which paid only one-eighth of the tax,

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